

REVIEW OF PAST PLANNING STUDIES

1. The 1962 Master Plan, Abington Planning Board and Surcliff and Merrill Planning Consultants.

The 1962 Master Plan inventoried and analyzed the Town of Abington land patterns, economic base, population trends and regional influences. It also reviewed and discussed the need for public facilities and infrastructure and change in the structure of town government and made recommendations for these changes.

2. The 1967 Proposed Sewerage System Report, Whitman and Howard, Inc.

The report identified needs for sewerage in the Town of Abington and specifically in the Green Street area and along the Shumatuscant River referred to as Phase I. It also noted that a small portion of the northeastern portion of the town was sewered and that on-site disposal was becoming impractical with increased densities.

3. The 1972 TOPICS PLAN, Tibbets, Abbet, McCarthy and Stratton.

The 1972 TOPICS Plan was a traffic study to assess the needs for traffic improvements in the Town of Abington that identified traffic improvements including the need for traffic signals, street improvements and bridge projects.

4. The 1973 Report on Improvements to the Existing Sewerage System, SEA Consultants.

The report assessed the needs of the deteriorating sewage disposal beds located on Charles Street for rehabilitation which were improved in 1974.

5. The 1974 Abington Housing Analysis, OCPC.

This housing study reviewed residential construction trends and housing needs and made recommendations for zoning by-law changes to expand multi-family opportunities in selected areas of the town.

6. The 1974 Planning for Better Schools Report, NESDEC.

The report examined school enrollment trends, school facility needs and made recommendations for school building remodeling and new construction.

7. The 1977 Abington Community Development Plan, Abington Planning Board and Old Colony Planning Council.

The Community Development Plan was in fact a Master Plan Update and examined land use and population growth in the Town of Abington and made recommendations for how to better manage development activity in the town by using sewerage as a tool to guide development. The Community Development Plan also included Housing, Community Facilities, Transportation, Economic Base and Open Space and Recreation elements.

8. The 1977 Report, Facilities Planning for Proposed Sewerage System, SEA Consultants.

The report explored and examined possible town-wide sewerage disposal options including: connecting to the proposed Old Colony Water Pollution Control District; connecting the eastern part of Abington to the existing Rockland System; and, connecting the western part of Abington to the Brockton System.

9. Abington Community Development Plan Update 1980, Abington Planning Board and OCPC.

This edition of the Community Development Plan focused on Community Facilities needs and expanded on the Open Space and Recreation element of the Plan to qualify for the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs' SELF HELP and Land and Water Conservation Program grant funds.

10. Abington Open Space and Recreation Plan 1988, Abington Planning Board and OCPC.

The Abington Open Space and Recreation Plan was updated in accordance with Executive Office of Environmental Affairs requirements to qualify the Town of Abington for grant program assistance.

11. Abington Master Plan 1999, Abington Planning Board and OCPC.

The 1999 Abington Master Plan is a comprehensive document that includes all of the state required elements of a master plan and formed the basis of several major zoning amendments and new zoning map. The zoning changes included the establishment of new zoning districts such as the Transportation Oriented Development (TOD) District; the designation of the North Abington and Abington business districts as Central Business Districts (CBD); Technology Business (TB); and, the Multiple Use Planned Development District (MUPDD).

12. 2000 Abington Open Space and Recreation Plan, Abington Planning Board and OCPC.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) is required to be updated every five years in order to be eligible for funding under programs administered by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). The EOEA has very stringent requirements for the Open Space and Recreation Plan to be certified and to qualify the Town of Abington for grant program assistance. The OSRP basically conducts an inventory of recreation, open space and conservation lands in the community and through the planning process makes an assessment of future needs. A five year action plan is the main feature of the plan.

13. Abington Affordable Housing Strategy 2003, Abington Planning Board.

The Abington Planning Board was one of the first communities in the Commonwealth to have prepared a certified affordable housing strategy in accordance with Department of Housing and Community Development requirements. The strategy assesses the need for affordable low and moderate income housing in the community and presents an action plan for attaining its five year subsidized housing goals. Abington currently has 7.84 percent of its year round housing units subsidized toward meeting its responsibilities under M.G.L. Chapter 40B.

14. Community Development Plan, 2004, Abington Planning Board and OCPC.

The Abington Community Development Plan was prepared in accordance with Executive Order 418 which provided state financial assistance for communities to prepare plans that focused on three basic planning elements. These were an Open Space and Resource Protection Element; a Housing Element; and, an Economic Development element. These led to recommendations for advancing the development policies of the Town of Abington.

15. Long Range Plan for School Facilities, 2004, Strekalovsky, Hoit & Raymond, LLC.

The Long Range Plan for School Facilities evaluated the condition of the Abington Schools, identified options to address deficiencies and make recommendations to accommodate future needs. Several options were presented and under the plan selected by the School Committee, the Early Childhood Center would be renovated and house the school administration function and Grades PK-1; the Frolio and Woodsdale Elementary Schools would accommodate Grades 2-4; a new Middle School would be constructed to house Grades 5-8; and the Abington High School would be renovated and expanded to accommodate Grades 9-12.

16. Final Report and Recommendation Grade 5-8 Middle School Site Selection Study, 2006.

Consistent with the recommendations made in the Long Range Plan for School Facilities the School Administration looked for a site to build a new Middle School facility. After more than a year of study, the Middle School Site Selection Committee recommended that the proposed new middle school be constructed on the town-owned, former Griffin's Dairy property on Plymouth Street.

17. Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2007, Abington Planning Board.

The Abington Planning Board coordinated the local effort in preparing the Open Space and Recreation Plan 2007. The Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) is required to be updated every five years in order to be eligible for funding under programs administered by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). The EOEA has very stringent requirements for the Open Space and Recreation Plan to be certified and to qualify the Town of Abington for grant program assistance. The OSRP basically conducts and inventory of recreation, open space and conservation lands in the community and through the planning process makes an assessment of future needs. A five year action plan is the main feature of the plan.